

South Dakota National Guard

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SD National Guard FACT SHEET – Updated June 12, 2011

OC Chad Carlson
SDNG Public Affairs Office

Background:

South Dakota is experiencing record flows of water on the Missouri River as a result of record snowfall in Montana that is beginning to melt and heavy rainfall in eastern Wyoming, Montana and the western Dakotas. As snow melts and rain water flows into streams and rivers in South Dakota, the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers is releasing record flows of water at all the dams on the Missouri River to accommodate water flowing into the upper Missouri River reservoir basin. These record releases on the Missouri River are expected to cause major flooding issues along the river.

On May 27, 2011, the initial S.D. National Guard flood response was directed to the cities of Pierre and Ft. Pierre. Over the Memorial Day weekend, the SDNG added forces to assist in mitigating the emerging threats to Vermillion, Yankton and Dakota Dunes in Southeast South Dakota.

“Yesterday I was visiting Soldiers and Airmen in the Dakota Dunes area,” said Maj. Gen. Timothy Reisch, adjutant general of the South Dakota National Guard. “They are doing a great job. The levees looked very good. The Airmen and Soldiers continue working in partnership on this important mission and everyone’s doing a great job.”

Past 24 hours:

In the Pierre and Fort Pierre area:

- Personnel conducted 24 hour levee security/surveillance in Pierre/Ft. Pierre
- Personnel conducted sandbagging operations to protect critical infrastructure
- Levee Repair Quick Reaction Force:
 - Conducted area and route reconnaissance
 - Sandbagged to secure plastic on levees

- Protected the land side of the levees from rain runoff that could compromise the integrity of the levee
- Provided personnel and vehicles to support rescue operations for evacuation.
- Provided personnel and equipment to support engineer operations as part of quick reaction force.
- 2 Blackhawks (1 with hoist and 1 without) were on call to conduct air operations in Pierre/Ft Pierre area
- Provided personnel and vehicles to support rural electric in restoring services

In the Dakota Dunes and Yankton area:

- Personnel conducted traffic control points and area security operations in North Sioux City area
- Personnel conducted sandbagging operations in Dakota Dunes, McCook Lake and Wynstone areas
- Personnel conducted sandbagging operations in Vermillion to stockpile 10,000 sandbags
- Conducted levee surveillance operations in Dakota Dunes area
- Conducted quick reaction force operations
- 2 Blackhawks (1 with hoist and 1 without) and 1 Chinook conducted air operations in Dakota Dunes

Current Operations:

In the Pierre and Fort Pierre area

- 93 personnel will conduct 24 hour levee security/surveillance in Pierre/Ft. Pierre
- 85 personnel will conduct sandbagging operations and be prepared to conduct quick reactionary force operations to protect critical infrastructure
- 8 personnel will continue to train and be prepared for rescue operations
- 2 Blackhawks (1 with hoist and 1 without) with 13 personnel will be available to conduct air operations in Pierre/Ft Pierre area
- 42 personnel will prepare to conduct engineer support operations
- 30 personnel will provide service and support to TF 147 for flood operations in Pierre/Ft. Pierre

In the Dakota Dunes and Yankton area

- 118 personnel will continue traffic control points and area security operations
- 169 personnel will conduct sandbagging operations in Dakota Dunes, Wynstone, and McCook Lake areas.
- 30 personnel will continue rehearsals for levee surveillance operations in Wynstone and McCook Lake areas. The operation will begin when the Incident Management personnel directs.
- 172 personnel will conduct levee surveillance operations in Dakota Dunes area
- 89 personnel conducting quick reaction force operations
- 2 Blackhawks (1 with hoist and 1 without) and 1 Chinook will conduct air operations in Dakota Dunes

More Information:

Approximately 990 Soldiers and Airmen from the South Dakota National Guard continue to performing various flood support duties throughout the state.

Task Force 147 is comprised of 269 Soldiers and Airmen from the South Dakota National Guard. This task force is responsible for berm patrol, security, traffic control, and quick reaction forces along the levees. Task Force 147 is working in and around the Pierre and Fort Pierre areas.

Task Force 153 currently has 690 National Guard Soldiers and Airmen performing sandbagging operations, levee patrols, security, traffic control, and is planning for quick reaction along the levees in the Yankton and Dakota Dunes areas.

Units that have served or are currently serving flooding operations:

Pierre and Fort Pierre:

- HHB 1-147TH FA (Watertown)
- A BTRY 1-147TH FA (Aberdeen)
- B BTRY 1-147TH FA (Salem)
- 147TH FSC (Mitchell)
- DET 1 147TH FSC (Sioux Falls)
- DET 2 147TH FSC (Webster)
- 129TH MPAD (Rapid City)
- 196TH MEB (Sioux Falls)
- 152ND CSSB (Pierre)
- 1742ND (Sioux Falls)
- 881ST (Sturgis)
- HHC 153RD ENGR (Huron)
- HHD 139TH (Brookings)
- DET 1 CO A 139TH (Miller)
- DET 2 CO A 139TH (Mitchell)
- CO A 139TH (Redfield)
- CO B 139TH (Mitchell)
- DET 1 235TH (Sioux Falls)
- 842ND EN CO (Spearfish)
- 115TH NSC (Brookings)
- DET 1 CO B 935TH (Rapid City)
- JFHQ (Rapid City)
- 114TH FW (Sioux Falls)

Dakota Dunes and Yankton:

- DET 1 FSC 153rd (Huron)
- FSC 153RD EN BN (Parkston)
- DET 1 FSC 153RD (Huron)
- 211 EN CO (Madison)
- 155TH EN CO (Rapid City)
- 155TH EN CO DETs (Wagner)
- 115TH NSC (Brookings)
- HHD 139TH BSB (Brookings)
- DET 2 CO A 1/112 (Rapid City)
- JFHQ (Rapid City)
- DET 1 CO B 935TH (Rapid City)
- 1742nd (Sioux Falls)
- RECRUITING BN (Rapid City)
- 129TH MPAD (Rapid City)
- C BTRY 1-147TH FA (Yankton)
- 147TH FSC (Mitchell)
- DET 1 1-147TH FSC (Sioux Falls)
- DET 2 1-147TH FSC (Webster)
- 235TH MP DET 1 (Sioux Falls)
- 235TH MP (Rapid City)
- 139TH CO A (Redfield)
- 139TH CO B (Mitchell)
- 139TH DET 1 CO B (Miller)
- 114TH FW (Sioux Falls)

The National Guard remains vigilant by working around the clock in this historic flooding event, and continues to work side by side with local, state and federal agencies to help South Dakotans in their time of need.

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High resolution photos are available upon request or at www.flickr.com/southdakotationalguard
Additional stories and information are online at www.facebook.com/southdakotationalguard

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